

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A search method comprising the steps of:
2 determining if a first parameter has a first predetermined value; and
3 if said first parameter has said first predetermined value, returning a value of each
4 of one or more selected members of a first node, said first node being referenced by a
5 value of a first member of a second node in response to said first member of said second
6 node having a predetermined type.

1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of determining if a second
2 member of said second node matches a value of a second parameter.

1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of returning said value of each of one
2 or more members of said first node is in response to said second member of said second
3 node matching said value of said second parameter.

1 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of returning values of a
2 selected set of members of said second node.

1 5. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of determining if a second
2 member of said second node matches a value of a second parameter, and wherein said
3 step of returning values of said selected set of members of said second node is in
4 response to said second member of said second node matching said value of said second
5 parameter.

1 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of, if said first parameter has
2 said first predetermined value, returning a value of each of one or more selected members
3 of a third node, said third node being referenced by a value of a first member of said first
4 node in response to said first member of said first node having said predetermined type.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein said selected members of said first node and said
2 selected members of said third node are selected in response to a value of a second
3 parameter.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein said first parameter comprises a parameter of a
2 set of parameters in a search request.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said search request comprises a Lightweight
2 Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) search request.

1 10. A computer program product embodied in a tangible storage medium, the
2 program product comprising a program of instructions for performing the method steps
3 of:

4 determining if a first parameter has a first predetermined value; and
5 if said first parameter has said first predetermined value, returning a value of each
6 of one or more selected members of a first node, said first node being referenced by a
7 value of a first member of a second node in response to said first member of said second
8 node having a predetermined type.

1 11. The program product of claim 10 further comprising instructions for performing
2 the step of determining if a second member of said second node matches a value of a
3 second parameter.

1 12. The program product of claim 11 wherein said instructions for performing step
2 of returning said value of each of one or more members of said first node are performed
3 in response to said second member of said second node matching said value of said
4 second parameter.

1 13. The program product of claim 10 further comprising instructions for performing
2 the step of returning values of a selected set of members of said second node.

3 14. The program product of claim 13 further comprising instructions for performing
4 the step of determining if a second member of said second node matches a value of a

5 second parameter, and wherein said instructions for performing step of returning values
6 of said selected set of members of said second node are performed in response to said
7 second member of said second node matching said value of said second parameter.

1 15. The program product of claim 10 further comprising instructions for performing
2 the step of, if said first parameter has said first predetermined value, returning a value of
3 each of one or more selected members of a third node, said third node being referenced
4 by a value of a first member of said first node in response to said first member of said
5 first node having said predetermined type.

1 16. The program product of claim 15 wherein said selected members of said first
2 node and said selected members of said third node are selected in response to a value of
3 a second parameter.

1 17. The program product of claim 10 wherein said first parameter comprises a
2 parameter of a set of parameters in a search request.

1 18. The program product of claim 17 wherein said search request comprises a
2 Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) search request.

1 19. A data processing system comprising:
2 circuitry operable for determining if a first parameter has a first predetermined
3 value; and
4 circuitry operable for, if said first parameter has said first predetermined value,
5 returning a value of each of one or more selected members of a first node, said first node
6 being referenced by a value of a first member of a second node in response to said first
7 member of said second node having a predetermined type.

1 20. The system of claim 19 further comprising circuitry operable for determining if
2 a second member of said second node matches a value of a second parameter.

1 21. The system of claim 20 wherein said circuitry operable for returning said value
2 of each of one or more members of said first node is operable in response to said second
3 member of said second node matching said value of said second parameter.

1 22. The system of claim 19 further comprising circuitry operable for returning values
2 of a selected set of members of said second node.

1 23. The system of claim 22 further comprising circuitry operable for determining if
2 a second member of said second node matches a value of a second parameter, and
3 wherein said circuitry operable for returning values of said selected set of members of
4 said second node is operable in response to said second member of said second node
5 matching said value of said second parameter.

1 24. The system of claim 19 further comprising circuitry operable for, if said first
2 parameter has said first predetermined value, returning a value of each of one or more
3 selected members of a third node, said third node being referenced by a value of a first
4 member of said first node in response to said first member of said first node having said
5 predetermined type.

1 25. The system of claim 24 wherein said selected members of said first node and said
2 selected members of said third node are selected in response to a value of a second
3 parameter.

1 26. The system of claim 19 wherein said first parameter comprises a parameter of a
2 set of parameters in a search request.

1 27. The system of claim 26 wherein said search request comprises a Lightweight
2 Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) search request.